

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/509,882

Examiner

Michael T. Hess

Applicant(s)

YAMAUCHI ET AL.

Art Unit

3729

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 07/09/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,8,10,11,13,14,26,27,33,35,36,38 and 39.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other

PETER VO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Randolph A. Smith, attorney of record for Applicants on August 27, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

In Reference to Claim 1

- Line 7: insert –by said movable recognition means— between “simultaneously with”
- Line 10: insert –by said movable recognition means—after “simultaneously”
- Line 25 (last line): delete the word “possible”
- Line 25 (last line): insert –by said movable recognition means—after “simultaneously”

In Reference to Claim 2

- Line 14 (last line): insert –movable—between “the recognition”

In Reference to Claim 26

- Line 10: insert –by said movable recognition means— between “simultaneously with”
- Line 13: insert –by said movable recognition means—after “simultaneously”

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- Line 28 (last line): delete the word “possible”
- Line 28 (last line): insert –by said movable recognition means—after
“simultaneously”

In Reference to Claim 27

- Line 14 (last line): insert –movable—between “the recognition”

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance: in combination with all other claim limitations the prior art of record neither anticipates nor renders obvious the following subject matter, including when one object is moved to said position possible to be read simultaneously by a recognition means, an absolute position of said recognition mark of said one object is identified before complete stop of a table for moving said one object, based on a position feedback signal of said table.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

CONCLUSION

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael T. Hess whose telephone number is 571-270-

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1994. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 AM - 5:00 PM, Monday - Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 571-272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Peter Vo, is written over the printed name and title.

**PETER VO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700**